

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Sybil Shainwald for her remarkable advocacy for the health of women all over the world.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RALPH MONACO

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 17, 2021*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the Members of the House to join me in mourning the passing of Ralph Monaco, a highly talented and respected lawyer in the State of Connecticut, a devoted husband and father, and all-around outstanding citizen who cared for his community and always went above and beyond to help others. We tragically lost Ralph on July 10, 2021 at the young age of 54. Ralph truly represented the best of eastern Connecticut and was a role model to so many in the field of law. His legacy and his leadership in private practice and in the public sphere will always be remembered and cherished.

Ralph was born in the Bronx in 1967 and spent most of his adolescence in the Big Apple. After excelling in his primary and secondary education, he decided to continue his education and attended Fordham University. While there—he made the decision that he would pursue a career in the field of law and chose to attend Quinnipiac Law School in North Haven, Connecticut, where his love for law truly flourished. After a successful academic career and graduation from law school in 1993—Ralph pursued his legal career and ventured to become a trial lawyer right here in eastern Connecticut. Through his determination and hard work, Ralph ascended in the field and became a partner at a firm right here in New London, CT at Conway, Londregan, Sheehan & Monaco P.C.

His passion for the law eventually carried Ralph to becoming an active member of the Connecticut Bar Association (CBA). There, through his convivial personality and highly ethical and sophisticated knowledge of the law, he rose through the ranks and became the 87th and youngest President in the history of the CBA by 2010. With the CBA, he formed relationships with many public officials and led several initiatives within the organization including his activity as the founder of the Civics Education Committee and serving as chair of the Modernizing Lawyer Referrals & Law Firm Models Subcommittee of the State of the Legal Profession Task Force; as well as the legislative liaison of the Litigation Section. Moreover—he was a crucial contributor to the CBA's Volunteer Attorney Program which grants families and individuals in need access to pro-bono legal assistance.

Ralph's community involvement went far beyond his major contributions to the CBA. He served on the Jury Committee of the Chief Justice's Public Safety and Trust Commission and was appointed by Connecticut Secretary of the State Denise W. Merrill to serve on the Civics Commission. He was also an active member of the Connecticut Trial Lawyers Association, Connecticut Bar Foundation, and New London County Bar Association. Ralph was an individual who gave all his energy to

supporting the greater good and one cannot quantify all the lives he positively impacted with his contributions to our eastern Connecticut community through the field of law. We will be forever grateful for Ralph's efforts and will work to carry his legacy of compassion.

Those who had the pleasure of working with Ralph attest to his tireless and focused work ethic. Ralph was a gentleman but not stuffy—he enjoyed a good laugh and was sensitive to anyone he interacted with. I had the pleasure to get to him know him during my years in the practice of law and as his Congressman. Ralph's sudden and unexpected loss has left a void in Eastern Connecticut and the legal community. Madam Speaker, to that end, I again ask that my colleagues and this Chamber to join me in expressing our deepest respect for Ralph's work and life and send our deepest condolences to the Monaco family. Ralph is survived by his wife Dina and daughters Abby and Anna—his sister Angela—and many other family members and friends who will carry the lasting memory of Ralph in their hearts.

AMERICAN TAMIL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 17, 2021*

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Madam Speaker, today I wish to honor the work of the American Tamil Medical Association, an organization devoted to promoting charitable work both in the United States and around the world.

Formed by ten Tamil physicians in 2005, ATMA has grown to include 13 chapters in 3 countries. Its annual convention brings together the brightest minds in the Tamil medical community to share ideas and initiate projects to create healthier conditions for the poor and underserved in this country and abroad.

As a Tamil American, I share a deep sense of pride in the accomplishments of fellow Tamil Americans. ATMA has raised thousands of dollars to underwrite relief efforts for natural disasters all over the world. Its charitable endeavors support homeless shelters in the United States, construction of children's hospitals in India, and organizations that prevent the spread of infectious diseases. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, ATMA provided funding and resources for hospitals, and operated a 24-hour helpline to aid those in need of medical assistance.

ATMA also serves as an important educational resource through its efforts to mentor medical students of Tamil origin, and the Continuing Medical Education seminars it offers in the United States and India.

Madam Speaker, I want to recognize and commend the American Tamil Medical Association for the contributions its members make to improve public health around the world.

REMEMBERING JAY ROBERT SORENSEN

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 17, 2021*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and life of Jay Robert Sorensen, a U.S. Navy veteran, dedicated public servant, and lifelong outdoorsman. Jay's passion for the outdoors was not limited to his own fishing, as he took any opportunity to share California's natural wonders with those around him. His endless love of the water led him to become one of California's most outspoken conservationists, constantly working to protect the state's complex ecosystems.

Born on September 28, 1936, Jay grew up in Stockton before enlisting in the Navy in 1954. Upon the conclusion of his service, Jay returned to Stockton where he spent the next 17 years working for the Stockton Unified School District. When presented with the opportunity to turn his lifelong passion for the outdoors into a career, Jay purchased a local bait shop where he spent decades helping others enjoy the Delta as much as he did.

Jay's passion for fishing led to him becoming an outspoken conservationist. He was among the earliest leaders to draw attention to declining fish populations and the loss of crucial spawning environments in the Delta. In order to protect the Delta's fragile ecosystem, Jay helped found the California Striped Bass Association and wrote about the need to protect fish populations in numerous publications. I was lucky to work alongside Jay for many years in my efforts to protect California's unique natural gems. His passion for the Delta was unmatched, and his legacy will live on through the continued efforts to preserve its wildlife populations.

He is survived by his two step-daughters Sandi Smith and Theresa Forbes. I know that they, along with the rest of his extended family and friends, join me in celebrating his life and his memory.

RECOGNIZING THE CITY OF MONESSEN, PENNSYLVANIA UPON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS DESIGNATION AS A CITY

HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 17, 2021*

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the city of Monessen, Pennsylvania, on the 100th anniversary of its designation as a city.

The land that would ultimately encompass Monessen was surveyed in 1897 by H. Dallas McCabe. Along with Colonel James M. Schoonmaker and colleagues, McCabe initially sought to expand the Pittsburgh and Lake Erie railway to reach coalfields further south. Industrialist William H. Donner approached the group and decided to bring his American Tin Plate Company to Monessen, forever changing its trajectory.

The construction of the first mill spurred further settlement by businesses and families